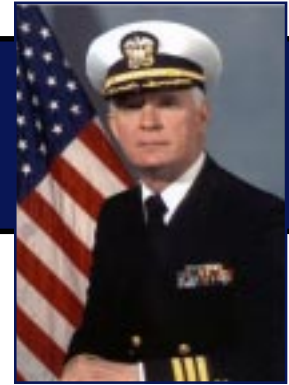


# FROM THE DISTRICT CHAPLAIN



## PREP Course - Prevention Relationship Enhancement Program

PREP is a program offered by the US Navy Chaplain Corps to strengthen marriages in the sea services. This program offers an opportunity to learn skills to enhance communication and problem solving techniques to make good marriages better and to encourage and to teach struggling marriages. PREP offers practical tools to strengthen relationships with spouses and other family members.

PREP is not a magical formula. It is a quick fix to difficult marital issues. It can be as little as one eight-hour day or two four-hour day courses or as long as an eight-day course of instruction for those who have the opportunity and time to spend developing the skills taught in the course.

The current research into marriage suggests that marriages made in the United States this year without appropriate communication and problem-solving skills will have a failure rate of close to 50% or higher. Marriage is, in fact, a risky business and should not be entered into lightly or without a lot of thought. Even in the best of circumstances, good marriages have difficulties and issues that cause marital stress: finances, careers, children, communication, religion, in-laws, etc.

The evangelist Dr. Billy Graham, in speaking to troubled marriages, stated, "If couples would put half the effort into marriage that they put into courtship, they would be surprised how things would brighten up." Dr. Graham is right on target. Good marriages require an investment of personal time, patience, work and the giving of ourselves to the other person.

The PREP course is available to all sea service personnel and their spouses as well as those couples who are contemplating marriage. I am available to teach this course at district headquarters or at the recruiting stations. Please feel free to call and establish a date and time for me to bring these skills to the Marines and their families in your area. Consider this opportunity and the PREP program for a portion of an "all hands" meeting to include spouses. These acquired skills reach beyond marriage and can become a valuable asset in problem solving and communication within the professional life of all Marines.

Please call me, Chaplain Williams, at 816-843-3936 to discuss PREP for your recruiting station personnel and their families.



## District awards newest Centurian

**SSgt. Rodney Terry, RS Kansas City, adds his name to the 9th Marine Corps District Centurian Hall of Fame. Terry joined the ranks of the Centurian Club by generating 100 quality enlistments from March 2002 to July 2002. (photo by Cpl. Michael T. Brown).**